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8 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
9 **CENTRAL DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

10 DEJON HEMPHILL,

11
12 Plaintiff,

13 vs.

14 CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO;
JACKSON TUBBS; MICHAEL
15 VUICICH; and DOES 3-10, inclusive,

16 Defendants.
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Case No. 5:24-cv-00825-KK-DTB

Hon. Kenly Kiya Kato

FIRST AMENDED COMPLAINT

1. Unreasonable Search and Seizure—Detention and Arrest (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
2. Unreasonable Search and Seizure—Excessive Force (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
3. Unreasonable Search and Seizure—Denial of Medical Care (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
4. Municipal Liability – Ratification (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
5. Municipal Liability – Inadequate Training (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
6. Municipal Liability – Unconstitutional Custom or Policy (42 U.S.C. § 1983)
7. Battery
8. Negligence
9. Bane Act (Cal. Civil Code 52.1)

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

1 **COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

2 DEJON HEMPHILL brings this Complaint against Defendants CITY OF
3 SAN BERNARDINO, JACKSON TUBBS, MICHAEL VUICICH and DOES 3-10,
4 inclusive, and hereby alleges as follows:

5 **INTRODUCTION**

6 1. This civil rights and state tort action seeks compensatory and punitive
7 damages for serious physical injuries sustained by Plaintiff DEJON HEMPHILL
8 (“HEMPHILL” or “Plaintiff”) as a result of force used against him by City of San
9 Bernardino Police Officers on April 2, 2023. The use of force was excessive and
10 unreasonable because HEMPHILL posed no immediate threat to any person and
11 was unarmed at the time the use of force. As a result of the officers’ use of force,
12 HEMPHILL endured pain and suffering and sustained serious physical injuries.
13 HEMPHILL also experienced and continues to experience emotional distress from
14 the physical injuries. Also, as a result of the use of force, HEMPHILL has incurred
15 medical expenses, has lost earnings, has suffered a reduced earning capacity, and
16 expects to incur future medical expenses and lose future earnings.

17 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

18 2. This case arises under 42 U.S.C. § 1983 and 1988 as well as California
19 law. This court has subject matter jurisdiction over Plaintiff’s federal question and
20 civil rights claims pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §§ 1331 and 1343. This Court has
21 jurisdiction over Plaintiff’s supplemental state law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367 as
22 those claims arise out of the same transactions and occurrences as Plaintiff’s federal
23 question claims.

24 3. Venue is proper in the Central District of California pursuant to
25 28 U.S.C. § 1391(b)(2) because all incidents, events, and occurrences giving rise to
26 this action occurred in the City and the County of San Bernardino, California.
27
28

PARTIES

4. At all relevant times, Plaintiff DEJON HEMPHILL was and is an individual residing in the City of Rialto, California.

5. At all relevant times, Defendant CITY of San Bernardino (“CITY”) is and was a duly organized public entity, form unknown, existing under the laws of the State of California. CITY is a chartered subdivision of the State of California with the capacity to be sued. CITY is responsible for the actions, omissions, policies, procedures, practices, and customs of its various agents and agencies, including the San Bernardino Police Department (“SBPD”) and its agents and employees. At all relevant times, Defendant CITY was responsible for assuring that the actions, omissions, policies, procedures, practices, and customs of SBPD and its employees and agents complied with the laws of the United States and of the State of California. At all relevant times, the CITY was the employer of Defendants JACKSON TUBBS, MICHAEL VUICICH, and DOE OFFICERS.

6. At all relevant times, Defendants DOES 3-5 (“DOE OFFICERS”) are police officers for SBPD who were acting under color of law within the course and scope of their duties as police officers for the SBPD. DOES 1-5 were acting with the complete authority and ratification of their principal, Defendant CITY.

7. Defendants DOES 6-10 are managerial, supervisory, and policymaking employees of SBPD, who at all relevant times were acting under color of law within the course and scope of their duties as a managerial, supervisory, and policymaking employee for the SBPD. DOES 6-10 were acting with the complete authority and ratification of their principal, Defendant CITY.

8. On information and belief, at all relevant times DOES 3-10 were residents of the County of San Bernardino.

9. In doing the acts and failing and omitting to act as hereinafter described, Defendants JACKSON TUBBS, MICHAEL VUICICH, and DOE

1 OFFICERS were acting on the implied and actual permission and consent of DOES
2 6-10 and the CITY.

3 10. In doing the acts and failing and omitting to act as hereinafter
4 described, Defendants DOE 6-10 were acting on the implied and actual permission
5 and consent of the CITY.

6 11. The true names and capacities, whether individual, corporate,
7 association, or otherwise of Defendants DOES 3-10, inclusive, are unknown to
8 Plaintiff, who otherwise sues these Defendants by such fictitious names. Plaintiff
9 will seek leave to amend this complaint to show the true names and capacity of
10 these Defendants when they have been ascertained. Each of the fictitiously-named
11 Defendants is responsible in some manner for the conduct or liabilities alleged
12 herein.

13 12. At all times mentioned herein, each and every Defendant was the agent
14 of each and every other Defendant and had the legal duty to oversee and supervise
15 the hiring, conduct, and employment of each and every Defendant.

16 13. All of the acts complained of herein by Plaintiff against Defendants
17 were done and performed by said Defendants by and through their authorized
18 agents, servants, and/or employees, all of whom at all relevant times herein were
19 acting within the course, purpose, and scope of said agency, service, and/or
20 employment capacity. Moreover, Defendants and their agents ratified all of the acts
21 complained of herein.

22 14. All Defendants who are natural persons, including DOES 3-10, are
23 sued individually and in their official capacities as officers, sergeants, captains,
24 commanders, supervisors, and/or civilian employees, agents, policy makers, and
25 representatives for their respective principals, COUNTY and CITY.

26 15. Plaintiff suffered injuries as a direct and proximate result of the actions
27 Defendants JACKSON TUBBS, MICHAEL VUICICH, and DOE OFFICERS.
28 Defendants JACKSON TUBBS, MICHAEL VUICICH, and DOE OFFICERS are

1 directly liable for Plaintiff's injuries and damages under federal law pursuant to 42
2 U.S.C. § 1983.

3 16. Defendants CITY and DOES 6-10 are liable for Plaintiff's injuries
4 under California law and under the doctrine of *respondeat superior*. Liability under
5 California law for public entities and public employees is based upon California
6 Government Code §§ 815.2, 820, and 820.8.

7 17. On September 28, 2023, Plaintiff filed comprehensive and timely
8 claims for damages with the City of San Bernardino pursuant to applicable sections
9 of the California Government Code.

10 18. On October 18, 2023, the City of San Bernardino denied said claim.
11

12 **FACTS COMMON TO ALL CLAIMS FOR RELIEF**

13 19. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1
14 through 18 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth
15 herein.

16 20. On April 2, 2023 at approximately 1:00 a.m., Plaintiff HEMPHILL was
17 driving in his vehicle when he was pulled over by Officer JACKSON TUBBS
18 ("TUBBS"), Officer Michael VUICICH ("VUICICH"), and DOE OFFICERS near
19 5th Street and North Mt. Vernon Avenue in San Bernardino, CA, allegedly due to
20 the vehicle's tinted windows. When HEMPHILL was informed of the reason for the
21 traffic stop, he informed Officers TUBBS and VUICICH that he intended to get the
22 window tint fixed.

23 21. Despite there being no reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause
24 to arrest HEMPHILL, Officers TUBBS, VUICICH, and DOE OFFICERS forcibly
25 removed HEMPHILL from his car and severely beat HEMPHILL.

26 22. At all relevant times, HEMPHILL did not forcibly resist nor did he
27 pose an immediate threat to Officers TUBBS, VUICICH, and DOE OFFICERS, or
28 anyone else.

1 28. The conduct of Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS
2 violated Plaintiff's right to be secure in his person against unreasonable searches and
3 seizures as guaranteed to Plaintiff under the Fourth Amendment to the United States
4 Constitution and applied to state actors by the Fourteenth Amendment.

5 29. The conduct of Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS
6 was willful, wanton, malicious, and done with reckless disregard for the rights and
7 safety of Plaintiff and therefore warrants the imposition of exemplary and punitive
8 damages as to Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS.

9 30. As a result of their misconduct, Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and
10 DOE OFFICERS are liable for Plaintiff's injuries, either because they were integral
11 participants in the unreasonable seizure or because they failed to prevent these
12 violations.

13 31. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages and attorney's fees under this
14 claim.

15 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

16 **Unreasonable Search and Seizure—Excessive Force (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

17 (Against Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS)

18 32. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1
19 through 31 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth
20 herein.

21 33. TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS used excessive and
22 unreasonable force when they forcibly removed Plaintiff from his vehicle and
23 subjected him to multiple strikes and blows to his head and body. Defendants
24 TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS' unjustified use of force deprived Plaintiff
25 of his right to be secure in his person against unreasonable searches and seizures as
26 guaranteed to Plaintiff under the Fourth Amendment to the United States
27 Constitution and applied to state actors by the Fourteenth Amendment.
28

1 34. At all relevant times, HEMPHILL did not forcibly resist nor did he
2 pose an immediate threat to TUBBS, VUICICH, DOE OFFICERS, or anyone else.

3 35. Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS' use of force was
4 excessive and objectively unreasonable and contrary to basic police officer training
5 because Plaintiff posed no immediate threat to any person at the time.

6 36. Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS did not exhaust
7 all reasonable alternative measures prior using force on Plaintiff. Defendants
8 TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS failed provide adequate commands and
9 warnings prior to using force, despite it be feasible to do so.

10 37. Plaintiff suffered serious and permanent physical injuries as a result of
11 the use of force.

12 38. At all relevant times, Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE
13 OFFICERS were acting under color of state law.

14 39. As a result of their misconduct as described above, Defendants
15 TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS are liable for Plaintiff's injuries, either
16 because they were integral participants in the use of excessive force or because they
17 failed to prevent these violations.

18 40. The conduct of Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS
19 was willful, wanton, malicious, and done with reckless disregard for the rights and
20 safety of Plaintiff and therefore warrants the imposition of exemplary and punitive
21 damages as to Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS.

22 41. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages for the violations of his rights,
23 including damages for past and future medical expenses, past and future loss of
24 earnings and decreased earning capacity, physical injuries, past and future pain and
25 suffering, emotional and mental distress stemming from the physical injuries,
26 humiliation, and disfigurement. Plaintiff also seeks punitive damages, costs, and
27 attorney's fees under this claim.
28

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Unreasonable Search and Seizure—Denial of Medical Care (42 U.S.C. § 1983)

(Against Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS)

42. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1 through 41 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.

43. After the detention, arrest, and use of force, Plaintiff was denied prompt medical attention while he was seriously injured and in pain. The delay of medical care to Plaintiff caused him extreme physical and emotional pain and suffering and contributed to his damages.

44. The denial of medical care by Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS deprived Plaintiff of his right to be secure in his person against unreasonable searches and seizures as guaranteed to him under the Fourth Amendment to the United States Constitution and applied to state actors by the Fourteenth Amendment.

45. The delay in medical attention contributed to Plaintiff's pain and suffering and was a contributing cause of Plaintiff's injuries and his mental and emotional distress.

46. Defendant TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS knew that failure to provide timely medical treatment to Plaintiff could result in further significant injury or the unnecessary and wanton infliction of pain, but disregarded that serious medical need, causing Plaintiff great bodily harm.

47. The conduct of Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS was willful, wanton, malicious, and done with reckless disregard for the rights and safety of Plaintiff and therefore warrants the imposition of exemplary and punitive damages as to DOE DEPUTIES and DOE OFFICERS.

48. At all relevant times, Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS were acting under color of state law.

1 49. As a result of their misconduct as described above, Defendants
2 TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS are liable for Plaintiff's injuries, either
3 because they were integral participants or because they failed to prevent these
4 violations.

5 50. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages for the violations of his rights,
6 including damages for past and future medical expenses, past and future loss of
7 earnings and decreased earning capacity, physical injuries, past and future pain and
8 suffering, emotional and mental distress stemming from the physical injuries,
9 humiliation, and disfigurement. Plaintiff also seeks punitive damages, costs, and
10 attorney's fees under this claim.

11
12 **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

13 **Municipal Liability – Ratification (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

14 (Against Defendants CITY and DOES 6-10)

15 51. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1
16 through 50 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth
17 herein.

18 52. At all relevant times, Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE
19 OFFICERS were acting under color of state law.

20 53. The acts of Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS as
21 described above, including the beating of Plaintiff, deprived Plaintiff of his rights
22 under the United States Constitution.

23 54. Upon information and belief, a final policymaker for CITY, acting
24 under color of law, who had final policymaking authority concerning the acts of
25 TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS, ratified (or will ratify) Defendants
26 TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS's acts and the bases for them. Upon
27 information and belief, the final policymaker knew of and specifically approved of
28 (or will specifically approve of) Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE

1 OFFICERS's acts, which include use of excessive force against Plaintiff as well as
2 the unreasonable detention and arrest of Plaintiff and denial of medical care.

3 55. Upon information and belief, a final policymaker for CITY has
4 determined (or will determine) that the acts of DOE OFFICERS were "within
5 policy."

6 56. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages for the violations of his rights,
7 including damages for past and future medical expenses, past and future loss of
8 earnings and decreased earning capacity, physical injuries, past and future pain and
9 suffering, emotional and mental distress stemming from the physical injuries,
10 humiliation, and disfigurement. Plaintiff also seeks costs and attorney's fees under
11 this claim.

12
13 **FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

14 **Municipal Liability – Failure to Train (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

15 (Against Defendants CITY and DOES 6-10)

16 57. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1
17 through 56 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth
18 herein.

19 58. At all relevant times, Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE
20 OFFICERS were acting under color of state law.

21 59. The acts of Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS
22 deprived Plaintiff of his rights under the United States Constitution.

23 60. The training policies of Defendant CITY were not adequate to train its
24 officers to handle the usual and recurring situations with which they must deal.

25 61. Defendant CITY was deliberately indifferent to the obvious
26 consequences of its failure to train its police officers adequately. Specifically, CITY
27 failed to adequately train TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS, respectively,
28 with respect to detentions and arrests, tactics, use of less-lethal options, and the use

1 of deadly force, including determining whether the use of deadly force is reasonable
2 and appropriate under the circumstances.

3 62. The failure of Defendant CITY to provide adequate training caused the
4 deprivation of the Plaintiff's rights by TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS;
5 that is, CITY's failure to train is so closely related to the deprivation of Plaintiff's
6 rights as to be the moving force that caused the ultimate injury.

7 63. By reason of the aforementioned acts and omissions, Plaintiff suffered
8 serious bodily injury, humiliation, pain and suffering, disfigurement, and past and
9 future emotional and mental distress, and financial loss. Accordingly, Defendants
10 CITY and DOES 6-10 each are liable to Plaintiff for compensatory damages under
11 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

12 64. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages for the violations of his rights,
13 including damages for past and future medical expenses, past and future loss of
14 earnings and decreased earning capacity, physical injuries, past and future pain and
15 suffering, emotional and mental distress stemming from the physical injuries,
16 humiliation, and disfigurement. Plaintiff also seeks punitive damages, costs, and
17 attorney's fees under this claim.

18
19 **SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

20 **Municipal Liability – Unconstitutional Custom or Policy (42 U.S.C. § 1983)**

21 (Against Defendants CITY and DOES 6-10)

22 65. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1
23 through 64 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth
24 herein.

25 66. At all relevant times, Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE
26 OFFICERS were acting under color of state law.

27 67. When Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS detained
28 and arrested Plaintiff, forcibly removed Plaintiff from his vehicle, subjected Plaintiff

1 to multiple strikes and blows to his head and body, and then denied him timely
2 medical attention, they acted pursuant to an expressly adopted official policy/ies or a
3 longstanding practice(s) or custom of the Defendant CITY.

4 68. On information and belief, Defendants TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE
5 OFFICERS were not disciplined, reprimanded, retrained, suspended, or otherwise
6 penalized in connection with the detention, arrest and shooting of Plaintiff.

7 69. Defendants CITY and DOES 6-10, together with other CITY
8 policymakers and supervisors, maintained, inter alia, the following unconstitutional
9 customs, practices, and policies:

- 10 (a) Using excessive force, including excessive deadly force;
- 11 (b) Providing inadequate training regarding the use of deadly force;
- 12 (c) Employing and retaining as officers individuals whom Defendant
13 CITY at all times material herein knew or reasonably should
14 have known had dangerous propensities for abusing their
15 authority and for using excessive force;
- 16 (d) Inadequately supervising, training, controlling, assigning, and
17 disciplining CITY police officers, and other personnel, whom
18 Defendant CITY knew or in the exercise of reasonable care
19 should have known had the aforementioned propensities and
20 character traits;
- 21 (e) Maintaining grossly inadequate procedures for reporting,
22 supervising, investigating, reviewing, disciplining and
23 controlling misconduct by CITY officers;
- 24 (f) Failing to adequately discipline CITY officers for the above-
25 referenced categories of misconduct, including “slaps on the
26 wrist,” discipline that is so slight as to be out of proportion to the
27 magnitude of the misconduct, and other inadequate discipline
28 that is tantamount to encouraging misconduct;

- 1 (g) Announcing that unjustified shootings are “within policy,”
2 including shootings that were later determined in court to be
3 unconstitutional;
- 4 (h) Even where shootings are determined in court to be
5 unconstitutional, refusing to discipline, terminate, or retrain the
6 officers involved;
- 7 (i) Encouraging, accommodating, or facilitating a “blue code of
8 silence,” “blue shield,” “blue wall,” “blue curtain,” “blue veil,”
9 or simply “code of silence,” pursuant to which police officers do
10 not report other officers’ errors, misconduct, or crimes. Pursuant
11 to this code of silence, if questioned about an incident of
12 misconduct involving another officer, while following the code,
13 the officer being questioned will claim ignorance of the other
14 officers’ wrongdoing;
- 15 (j) Maintaining a policy of inaction and an attitude of indifference
16 towards soaring numbers of police shootings, including by
17 failing to discipline, retrain, investigate, terminate, and
18 recommend officers for criminal prosecution who participate in
19 shootings of unarmed people.

20 70. By reason of the aforementioned acts and omissions, Plaintiff suffered
21 serious bodily injury, humiliation, pain and suffering, disfigurement, and past and
22 future emotional and mental distress, and financial loss.

23 71. Defendants CITY and DOES 6-10, together with various other
24 officials, whether named or unnamed, had either actual or constructive knowledge
25 of the deficient policies, practices and customs alleged in the paragraphs above.
26 Despite having knowledge as stated above, these defendants condoned, tolerated and
27 through actions and inactions thereby ratified such policies. Said defendants also
28 acted with deliberate indifference to the foreseeable effects and consequences of

1 these policies with respect to the constitutional rights of Plaintiff and other
2 individuals similarly situated.

3 72. By perpetrating, sanctioning, tolerating and ratifying the outrageous
4 conduct and other wrongful acts, CITY and DOES 6-10 acted with intentional,
5 reckless, and callous disregard for the life and constitutional rights of Plaintiff.
6 Furthermore, the policies, practices, and customs implemented, maintained, and still
7 tolerated by Defendants CITY and DOES 6-10 were affirmatively linked to and
8 were a significantly influential force behind the injuries of Plaintiff.

9 73. Accordingly, Defendants CITY and DOES 6-10 each are liable to
10 Plaintiff for compensatory damages under 42 U.S.C. § 1983.

11 74. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages for the violations of his rights,
12 including damages for past and future medical expenses, past and future loss of
13 earnings and decreased earning capacity, physical injuries, past and future pain and
14 suffering, emotional and mental distress stemming from the physical injuries,
15 humiliation, and disfigurement. Plaintiff also seeks punitive damages, costs, and
16 attorney's fees under this claim.

17 18 **SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

19 **Battery (Cal. Govt. Code § 820 and California Common Law)**

20 (Against Defendants CITY, TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS)

21 75. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1
22 through 74 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth
23 herein.

24 76. At all relevant times, TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS were
25 working as police officers for SBPD and was acting within the course and scope of
26 their duties as a sheriff's deputies for the CITY.

27 77. On April 2, 2023 at approximately 1:00 a.m., Plaintiff was driving in
28 his vehicle when he was pulled over by TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS

1 allegedly due to the vehicle's tinted windows near 5th Street and N Mt. Vernon
2 Avenue in San Bernardino, CA. Plaintiff was forcibly removed from his car and
3 severely beaten by TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS. TUBBS, VUICICH
4 and DOE OFFICERS did not have reasonable suspicion to detain or probable cause
5 to arrest Plaintiff. At all relevant times, Mr. Hemphill did not forcibly resist nor pose
6 a threat to anyone.

7 78. The officers' use of force was unreasonable and contrary to basic police
8 officer training because Plaintiff posed no immediate threat to any person at the
9 time. Plaintiff was unarmed at all times.

10 79. As a direct and proximate result of the conduct of TUBBS, VUICICH
11 and DOE OFFICERS as alleged above, Plaintiff suffered serious and permanent
12 physical injuries.

13 80. The CITY is vicariously liable for the wrongful acts of Defendants
14 TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS pursuant to section 815.2(a) of the
15 California Government Code, which provides that a public entity is liable for the
16 injuries caused by its employees within the scope of the employment if the
17 employee's act would subject him or her to liability.

18 81. The conduct of TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS was
19 malicious, wanton, oppressive, and accomplished with a conscious disregard for the
20 rights of Plaintiff, entitling Plaintiff to an award of exemplary and punitive damages,
21 which Plaintiff seeks under this claim.

22 82. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages for the violations of his rights,
23 including damages for past and future medical expenses, past and future loss of
24 earnings and decreased earning capacity, physical injuries, past and future pain and
25 suffering, emotional and mental distress stemming from the physical injuries,
26 humiliation, and disfigurement.

SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF

Negligence (Cal. Govt. Code § 820 and California Common Law)

(Against all Defendants)

83. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1 through 82 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth herein.

84. The actions and inactions of Defendants were negligent and reckless, including but not limited to:

- (a) TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS' failure to properly and adequately assess the need to detain, arrest, and use force or deadly force against Plaintiff;
- (b) TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS' negligent tactics and handling of the situation with Plaintiff, including pre-force negligence;
- (c) TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS' negligent detention, arrest, and use of force, against Plaintiff;
- (d) TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICER''s failure to provide prompt medical care to Plaintiff,
- (e) the CITY's failure to properly train and supervise employees, both professional and non-professional, including TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS;
- (f) the CITY's failure to ensure that adequate numbers of employees with appropriate education and training were available to meet the needs of and protect the rights of Plaintiff.

85. As a direct and proximate result of Defendants' conduct as alleged above, and other undiscovered negligent conduct, Plaintiff suffered past and future financial loss, serious and permanent physical injuries, and past and future emotional and mental distress.

1 86. The CITY is vicariously liable for the wrongful acts of TUBBS,
2 VUICICH, DOE OFFICERS and DOES 6-10 pursuant to section 815.2(a) of the
3 California Government Code, which provides that a public entity is liable for the
4 injuries caused by its employees within the scope of the employment if the
5 employee's act would subject him or her to liability.

6 87. Plaintiff brings this claim in his individual capacity and seeks
7 compensatory damages for the violations of his rights, including damages for past
8 and future medical expenses, past and future loss of earnings and decreased earning
9 capacity, physical injuries, past and future pain and suffering, emotional and mental
10 distress stemming from the physical injuries, and disfigurement.

11
12 **EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF**

13 **(Violation of Cal. Civil Code § 52.1)**

14 (Against All Defendants)

15 88. Plaintiff repeats and realleges each and every allegation in paragraphs 1
16 through 87 of this Complaint with the same force and effect as if fully set forth
17 herein.

18 89. California Civil Code, Section 52.1 (the Bane Act), prohibits any
19 person from using violent acts or threatening to commit violent acts in retaliation
20 against another person for exercising that person's constitutional rights. An intent to
21 violate a person's civil rights can be inferred by a reckless disregard for the person's
22 civil rights.

23 90. On information and believe, TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS,
24 while working for CITY and acting within the course and scope of their duties as
25 police officers, intentionally committed and attempted to commit acts of violence
26 against Plaintiff and also acted with a reckless disregard for Plaintiff's civil rights,
27 including beating him without justification or excuse, detaining him without
28

1 reasonable suspicion and arresting him without probable cause, and by denying him
2 timely medical care.

3 91. When TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS detained and arrested
4 Plaintiff without reasonable suspicion or probable cause, severely beat Plaintiff, and
5 failed to provide any care to his subsequent injuries, they interfered with Plaintiff's
6 civil rights to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures, to equal protection of
7 the laws, to timely and adequate medical care, to be free from state actions that
8 shock the conscience, and to life, liberty, and property.

9 92. On information and belief, TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS
10 intentionally and spitefully committed the above acts to discourage Plaintiff from
11 exercising his civil rights, to retaliate against him for invoking such rights, or to
12 prevent him from exercising such rights, which he was and is fully entitled to enjoy.

13 93. On information and belief, Plaintiff reasonably believed and understood
14 that the violent acts committed by TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS were
15 intended to discourage him from exercising the above civil rights, to retaliate against
16 him for invoking such rights, or to prevent him from exercising such rights.

17 94. TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS intentionally interfered with
18 the above civil rights of Plaintiff, including his right to be free from excessive force,
19 and acted with a reckless disregard for these rights.

20 95. The conduct of Defendants was a substantial factor in causing
21 Plaintiff's harms, losses, injuries, and damages.

22 96. The CITY is vicariously liable for the wrongful acts of TUBBS,
23 VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS pursuant to section 815.2(a) of the California
24 Government Code, which provides that a public entity is liable for the injuries
25 caused by its employees within the scope of the employment if the employee's act
26 would subject him or her to liability.

27 97. Defendants DOES 6-10 are vicariously liable under California law and
28 the doctrine of *respondeat superior*.

1 98. TUBBS, VUICICH and DOE OFFICERS' conduct was malicious,
2 wanton, oppressive, and accomplished with a conscious disregard for Plaintiff's
3 rights, justifying an award of exemplary and punitive damages as to DOE
4 DEPUTIES and DOE OFFICERS.

5 99. Plaintiff seeks compensatory damages for the violations of his rights,
6 including damages for past and future medical expenses, past and future loss of
7 earnings and decreased earning capacity, physical injuries, past and future pain and
8 suffering, emotional and mental distress stemming from the physical injuries,
9 humiliation, and disfigurement. Plaintiff also seeks punitive damages, costs, and
10 attorney's fees under California Civil Code section 52 as to this claim.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff DEJON HEMPHILL, requests entry of judgment in his favor and against Defendants CITY OF SAN BERNARDINO, JACKSON TUBBS, MICHAEL VUICICH and DOES 3-10, inclusive, as follows:

- A. For compensatory damages in an amount to be proven at trial, including damages for his serious physical injuries, for his pain and suffering, for past and future medical expenses, for past and future financial loss, and past and future mental and emotional distress;
- B. For punitive damages against the individual defendants in an amount to be proven at trial;
- D. For statutory damages;
- E. For treble damages pursuant to California Civil Code Sections 52, 52.1;
- F. For interest;
- G. For reasonable costs of this suit and attorneys' fees; and
- H. For such further other relief as the Court may deem just, proper, and appropriate.

DATED: July 18, 2024

LAW OFFICES OF DALE K. GALIPO

By /s/ Hang D. Le

Dale K. Galipo
Hang D. Le
Attorneys for Plaintiff

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury.

DATED: July 18, 2024

LAW OFFICES OF DALE K. GALIPO

By /s/ Hang D. Le
Dale K. Galipo
Hang D. Le
Attorneys for Plaintiff